



EMA Monthly Newsletter-

November Edition

What's Happening?

Programme Overview

The Programme continues to progress well and according to schedule and budget.

A significant milestone was reached in that the new mark schemes which enable sub modular marks for UG students to be entered and module marks to be calculated in RISIS have been made live. The process to go-live with UG sub modular marking for all schools is staggered in line with training for programme administrators over the coming weeks. Sub modular marks will therefore start to appear on RISIS in earnest from January onwards.

Led by the TEL team, the training continues for early adopter schools in the agreed electronic submission, feedback and grading processes, and planning is underway for the approach and timescales for wider roll out. Special Projects with HBS and IoE are advancing well.

The development of the Business Case for Learning Analytics continues, along with finalising of requirements for the Student and Staff Feedback Dashboard. A Solution Architect will shortly join the Programme to assist with proposals for technical design.

Core Systems



A significant milestone was reached in that the new mark schemes which enable sub modular marks for UG to be entered, and module marks to be calculated in RISIS, have been made live.

The process to go-live with UG sub modular marking for all schools is staggered in line with training for programme administrators over the coming weeks. Sub modular marks will therefore start to appear on RISIS more fully from January onwards.

Communication activities for Personal Tutors and Students who will have access to view marks will commence in line with January volumes of mark entry. Engagement with Programme Administration colleagues has been ongoing, including testing with a full range of system users.

E Submission, Feedback and Grading



The work within the eSFG work stream is progressing well and positive feedback continues to be received, from Early Adopter Schools, on support provided for the transition to electronic submission, feedback and grading.

Revision of training materials and eSFG training by TEL was commenced with the two Early Adopter Schools.

The planning and approach to further tailoring the core eSFG process and wider roll out for the 18/19 academic year is underway and due to be agreed by the end of the year, ready for scheduling and communication in the new year.

Collaborative working continues with Schools, ADE, the Support Centres and TEL team.

Supporting Change for EMA



The Supporting Change for EMA work stream has continued to make steady progress despite a short gap in project management support. A new PM is likely to be in post by mid-late January.

Engagement continues due to previous plans and commitment from the whole Programme team, with minimal impact on continuity of communications and change activities.

A full review of programme benefits and development of the Benefits Realisation Plans is underway. The overarching Benefits Strategy has now been issued to the Programme Board for approval.

We also continue to visit schools to give updates on progress as part of the commitment to be transparent and open, this includes a rebuild of the current website to give visitors more clarity of the work we are doing.

EMA Dashboard & Learning Analytics

As part of the Dashboard design a focus group was held in November to explore initial requirements with Academics and Students. A collation of overarching assessment reporting requirements are being gathered to enable comparison against the dashboard requirements.



Initial discovery work around data architecture and requirements for the student and staff feedback dashboard is to be finalised in conjunction with Learning Analytics Business Case work to ensure synergies are being managed, utilising the expertise of a Solution Architect (expected in early December).

An initial meeting was held to discuss operating model considerations for the Learning Analytics work stream.



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What's Happening Next?

Core Systems



The go-live for sub modular marking will continue throughout December, in line with training for programme administrators including UoRM.

Data checking and further refining of assessment information, as part of commencing mark entry, will be a priority. Go-lives for the updated Extenuating Circumstances workflow (enabling the students to submit electronically), Personal Tutor and Student sub modular mark screens in RISIS are also scheduled.

Initial scoping of requirements for integration of RISIS and Blackboard will also commence in December, with a series of workshops planned involving all key stakeholders.

E Submission, Feedback and Grading



Analysis of each school/department will be carried out in order to understand readiness for eSFG, and inform planning and communications for the wider roll-out for the 18/19 academic year.

Further engagement will be planned with Teaching & Learning Deans, and sessions will be scheduled in the new year with School and Departmental Directors of Teaching and Learning, as well as Heads of Schools. These kick off sessions will be carried out in collaboration with TEL, ADE and SSC.

Lunchtime sessions will continue with for Academic staff within the two Early Adopter schools, providing an opportunity to re-iterate processes, and discuss ongoing challenges.

Supporting Change for EMA



Improvements to the information held on the EMA Website will be finalised in December, to include more information on who is involved, upcoming communications, delivery timeline and improved FAQs as well as plan for more regular updates in the News section.

The work being done on policies alignment and potential queries or amendments that may arise will come to a close and a subsequent observations report will be produced for the Pedagogical Steering Group.

The Programme Board will review the Benefits Strategy at the December meeting, and this will enable the benefits realisation plan to be finalised by the January meeting of the Board.

In addition, a review of online resources that may be required to support staff and students will also be conducted.

EMA Dashboard & Learning Analytics



The EMA Dashboard & Learning Analytics work stream will be engaging a Solutions Architect from mid-December, to support in design of system architecture options for both Dashboard and Learning Analytics (as well as core systems integration).

There will also be considerable consultation with subject matter experts across December and January to confirm the requirements, enabling refinement of all potential options.

Alongside this, the scope and requirements of the Student & Staff Feedback dashboard will be finalised.

Procurement discussions will continue to identify the best route to consider Attendance Monitoring and other technical solutions required for learning analytics.